

October 2017

Back to School Blues?

End Conscription Campaign

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BACK to SCHOOL BLUES?...

COME SEE THE MOVIE



3.30 p.m.

ROSE BANK PRICE **R2**
CATHOLIC CHURCH

FRI 24 APRIL

ISSUED
BY E.C.C.

HAIR....

Is a movie about young people in America in the '60's who were called up to fight in the war in Vietnam. The film raises some serious questions about war. Here are just some of those questions. You may have some further questions of your own too.

1. What is achieved by the hours spent training the soldiers to perform demanding physical tasks in the shortest time possible? Is it only to achieve peak fitness? Does this pressure on them allow them to think rationally about what they are doing?
2. Are the men ever allowed to make decisions for themselves within the army?
3. The general is greatly put out when music blares out over the loudspeakers. He orders the military police to shoot them down. Does destroying the source of irritation solve the problem? Does it indicate a deeper problem? Weren't the conscripts expressing their unhappiness with the system?
4. Who really represented the wish for peace? The hippies or the army?

In the 1960s Americans resisted participating in the Vietnamese War. They believed that the war in Vietnam was unjust and that America had no right to be there.

WHAT ABOUT THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA?

South Africa is a country at war:

- * A war is being waged to maintain South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia.
- * A war is being waged against the people inside South Africa. Many people in South Africa are calling for an end to apartheid. Apartheid is an unjust and unequal system.
- * 75% of South Africans have no say in the government.
- * Over 50% of African households have an income of less than R150 per month.
- * Black unemployment stands at over 3 million.
- * Seven times more money is spent on educating a white child than is spent on educating a black child.

The South African Government believes in a military solution to political problems:

- * Conscription to the SADF is compulsory.
- * Conscientious objection is possible only on religious grounds.

South Africans are paying the price for this war:

- * In 1986 the military budget was R5,25 billion.
- * Many people have been killed or maimed by security forces in the townships.
- * 115 members of the SADF were killed in 1986.
- * 429 soldiers attempted to commit suicide in 1986 - 24 killed themselves.

WAR IS NO SOLUTION TO SOUTH AFRICA'S PROBLEMS!

ECC BELIEVES:

- * That our country is being dragged further and further into a civil war.
- * That conscription concerns everyone - the conscript, their loved ones and those who live in the townships.
- * That a war mentality is being encouraged in our schools by cadets and security drills.
- * That war is no solution to our country's problems

Our latest Campaign says:

**WAR IS NOT COMPULSORY -
LET'S CHOOSE PEACE.**

JOIN US!

What you can do:

- * Show this pamphlet to your parents and friends
- * Talk to people around you about how the civil war in South Africa affects your life.

**LOOK OUT FOR DETAILS ABOUT THE ECC
PEACE PICNIC DUE TO TAKE PLACE SOON.**



IS WAR THE COST OF LIVING?

